



**Major Policy Discussion:
Managing the Expansion of Graduate
Education in Texas**

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
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MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



**Planning Process at
Texas State University**

Occurs every 6 years, with an update at three-year midpoint.

Every unit of Texas State participates, but not every unit has major initiatives in each plan.

Planning is characterized by:

- “Bottoms up/top down” approach
- Openness and transparency
- Accountability
- Academic Plan goes first
- Review of mission statement, shared values, and university goals

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The rising STAR of Texas

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All initiatives must comport with University Goals

Overarching goal is to continue our progress toward attaining status as a National Research University by further improving our standing as an Emerging Research University.

Goals in the Plan include two that specifically relate to graduate education:

1. Texas State seeks to achieve significant progress in research and creative activity thus advancing our progress toward meeting various criteria for achieving National Research University Fund eligibility. For example, adding new or expanding existing Ph.D. programs will aid in increasing restricted research expenditures.
2. Texas State offers high quality academic and educational programming. A guiding principle is to introduce new academic programs that meet the workforce and economic needs of the region and the state and provide students with marketable skills.

Academic Plan

- Begins at Department/School level and rolls up to Colleges
- College Deans make public presentations of their plans
- Provost culls through College plans to determine, in consultation with President, priorities for university
- Typically, only about one in six of the degree programs proposed by Departments/Schools are prioritized for implementation

Proposed graduate programs fall into following categories:

- 1. Programs in advanced development as a result of previous Academic Plan**
- 2. Newly proposed doctoral programs**
- 3. Newly proposed master's programs**
- 4. Redesign, revision or expansion of existing programs**
- 5. Potential programs provisionally targeted for strengthening and continued planning**

Functions of Graduate Education:

- 1. Generation of new knowledge, including R&D for industry**
- 2. Contributions to U. S. economy through start-up companies**
- 3. Preparation for professoriate**
- 4. Provision of professional career credentials**
- 5. Delivery of accelerated professional advancement**